THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a)No approval has been given under the Industrial Park Scheme to any undertaking for setting up of an Industrial Park in the States of North Eastern Region including Sikkim, so far.

(b) and (c) Under the Industrial Park Scheme, approval is provided to the developer of an Industrial Park to avail Income Tax benefit under Section 80-IA of Income Tax Act 1961. There is no provision of financial allocation under the Scheme.

Survey on impact of hike of cement price

2326. SHRI THENNALA G. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted/propose to conduct any survey on the impact of the hike of cement price; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Promoting Brands of handloom by IBEF

2327. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the sole aim of Indian Brand Equity Foundation (IBEF) which is managed by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) is to promote the brands in handlooms, handicrafts, leather and horticulture sectors;

(b) whether it is also a fact that aims for which this foundation was established are not being achieved upto the mark; and

(c) the new guidelines issued by Government to the IBEF?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.

Opposition to SEZs

†2328. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the policy of promoting Special Economic Zones and allotting the agricultural land to non-agricultural sector in different parts of the country is being strongly opposed;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.